

Contract Variation - Lawson Street and Lawson Square - Head Consultant

File No: S118107

Summary

Lawson Street and Lawson Square is a busy section of the road network that currently does not have any cycle facilities. This is a high priority cycle route for cyclists from Newtown to the eastern CBD. This project completes a missing link in the City's Newtown to City regional cycle network.

In June 2014, Complete Urban Pty Ltd were engaged for design consultancy works for the project. This engagement included service provision throughout the concept design, design development, tender and construction phases of the project.

In late 2016, with the design and documentation ready for tender, Sydney Trains advised that their approval will be required for the scope of works impacting the Redfern Station Bridge.

This approval process is nearing completion, with a revised light weight design option that will minimise impact to the bridge and be endorsed by a Sydney Trains Authorised Engineer Officer.

Additional works, scope and services are now required to amend the design package with this new light weight design.

This report seeks to increase the contract contingency of the existing design consultant due to the extended period in obtaining Sydney Trains approval and additional services required to complete the project.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) approve increasing the existing contract contingency as outlined in the subject report;
- (B) approve increased contingency value for the existing Head Consultant contract to cover additional services as described in Confidential Attachment B to the subject report; and
- (C) note the financial and contractual implications detailed in Confidential Attachment B to the subject report.

Attachments

Attachment A. Revised Concept Design Plan and Section

Attachment B. Financial Implications (Confidential)

Background

1. Lawson Street and Lawson Square is a busy section of road network that currently does not have any cycle facilities. This is a high priority cycle route for cyclists from Newtown to the eastern CBD. This project completes a missing link in the City's Newtown to City regional cycle network.
2. A separated bi-directional cycleway will run along Lawson Street and Lawson Square between Little Eveleigh Street and Wells Street, to connect into existing cycle facilities. The crossing points at signalised and un-signalised intersections will provide a safe crossing environment for cyclists.
3. The NSW Government is partially funding this project as it contributes to their cycling and pedestrian safety programs.
4. In late 2016, with the design and documentation ready for tender, Sydney Trains advised that their approval will be required for the scope of works impacting the Redfern Station Bridge.
5. Additional time was required to determine the process and criteria for approval which included the clarification that a Sydney Trains Authorised Engineer Officer was required to endorse the design works impacting the bridge.
6. Several design options were developed and reviewed by key internal City stakeholders.
7. The result is a light weight design option which meets the original design intent of the project and includes a level crossing, divider system and line work that allows for the majority of the existing bridge to remain untouched.
8. The approvals process is nearing completion with the revised light weight design endorsed by the Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee on 15 November 2018. An endorsement letter prepared by the Authorised Engineer Officer will be forwarded to Sydney Trains for their final approval.

Head Consultant Services Contract

9. In May 2014, Complete Urban Pty Ltd were engaged for design consultancy works for the project. This engagement included service provision throughout the concept design, design development, tender and construction phases of the project.
10. There is now a requirement for additional funds in the design contract to provide additional services to amend the drawing packages ready for tender. Also for additional works for traffic control services plans, review of lighting design and a Road Safety Audit.
11. It is recommended that Council increase the value of the design consultancy contract contingency due to the extended period in obtaining Sydney Trains approval and additional services required to complete the project.

Budget Implications

12. There are sufficient funds allocated for this project within the current year's capital works budget and future year's estimates. Refer to Confidential Attachment B for further details.

Relevant Legislation

13. Attachment B contains confidential commercial information which, if disclosed, would confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
14. Discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it would compromise Council's ability to negotiate fairly and commercially to achieve the best outcome for its ratepayers.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

15. Program critical dates:
 - (a) Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee - November 2018.
 - (b) Sydney Trains Notification - December 2018.
 - (c) Tender - February 2019.
 - (d) Construction Commencement - July 2019.

Public Consultation

16. Consultation was undertaken with the following stakeholders during the development of the concept design:
 - (a) Aboriginal Housing Commission;
 - (b) Redfern Police;
 - (c) Transport for NSW and State Transit Authority;
 - (d) Roads and Maritime Services; and
 - (e) Bicycle Groups.
17. Public exhibition of the design plans for the Lawson Street improvements was conducted over two weeks between 26 October and 11 November 2015.
18. The project had two distinct parts; footpath improvement works and a separated cycleway. Overall 69 submissions were received.
19. A large number of submissions were generally supportive of both the footpath and cycleway works with several suggestions being made to improve the designs.

20. A petition was also received, signed by 70 residents from surrounding streets, opposing the Lawson Street footpath works. The primary objection is the impact it has on street parking.
21. Consultation activities included:
 - (a) a consultation letter sent to 580 local residents and businesses informing them of the project and submission details;
 - (b) a webpage on sydneyoursay.com.au where submissions could be made; and
 - (c) the concept design was displayed at the One Stop Shop in Town Hall House and Redfern Neighbourhood Service Centre.
22. On Sydneyoursay.com.au the project was viewed by 545 individual users and the plans were downloaded 399 times.

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